



CAWMC was founded January 1st, 1975

Volume 46, Issue 09

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President's Message

Hello everybody:

I feel that this issue is one of "nuts and bolts". Please stay with us and read on! It is worthwhile!

Since we could not meet in July, here are the president's, editor's, treasurer's, and memberships reports that hopefully will be adopted at our next AGM in Ottawa.

Preceding those reports, on page 2, you will find the details of our new "thank you for your contribution" reward program. Should you have any question, do not hesitate to contact me. My contact information is on the left.

You will also find the Chips from the woodpile article, as Dave Gillespie ON continues to entertain us with our association's history.

This past July, I received a request to write about the history and the collecting of wooden money, for the benefit of the readers of Quebec publications. In my point of view, this is a sign that our hobby is better known and growing in popularity.

I have translated the article in English and decided to offer it to our members, since some clubs are starting their fall activities, in (masked) person or virtually. This 2 pages could become handy, should you present something from your collection at an eventual meeting. Please feel free to print and share.

My warmest thank you to Norm Belsten, as that article builds on what Norm wrote for *The History and Collecting of Canadian Wooden Money*, in Canadian Numismatic Correspondence Course, Part II

Have a great month of September everyone. Happy Labor Day!

Stay safe

France



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Al Munro (Chairman)
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Dave Gillespie
Michael Turrini
Kevin Day-Thorburn
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Featured Wood of the Month of September 2020

This featured wood of the month has been graciously offered by Neil Probert, from Calgary AB. It's catalogue number 8140 - 491, measures 45 mm. The dinosaur side is Black, Green and celebrates the 2019 RCNA convention. Neil's personal design reads Neil Probert/Numismatist/ Calgary, Alberta, is decorated with a maple leaf and is red.



Wikipedia says that "Albertosaurus is a genus of tyrannosaurid theropod (Ed: characterized by hollow bones and three-toes limbs) dinosaurs that lived in western North America during the Late Cretaceous Period, about 70 million years ago." As an adult, the Albertosaurus measured only 9 meters but could still weight between 1,300 and 2,500 kgs.

[More on Neil in November...](#)



Timber Talk's "Thank You for your contribution" Reward Program

This **multi-year** program will be at the discretion of the editor of the Timber Talk, in concert with CAWMC Board of Directors

To qualify articles should be at least 250 words in length, sent in MS Word format, or handwritten, accompanied by images if possible. Publication of the articles will be at the discretion of the editor. The editor of TT reserves the right to edit and publish the article partially or in its entirety.

The woods, to be issued in extremely limited quantities (5-25), will be attributed in the following order:

1 st article	Black	2 nd article	Red	3 rd article	Royal Blue
4 th article	Green	5 th article	Burgundy	6 th article	Purple
7 th article	Teal	8 th article	Bronze		

Woods recognizing special contribution to Timber Talk will also be awarded as follows:

Silver wood: Exceptional Service, ex: scheduled contributors, proof readers, FWOTM coordinator

Gold wood: More than 8 articles, or for articles promoting wooden money collecting and CAWMC in other numismatic publication (paper or digital). In the last case, it will be the responsibility of the author to claim the reward by e-mailing the editor.

Platinum (Multi colored) wood: Well beyond 8 articles.

The woods will be presented or mailed to the recipient at the Annual AGM if possible or delivered via mail.

Articles and images should be sent to the editor (france@waychison.com or address on front page)



Chips from the Woodpile 9.

In September of 1983 the newsletter asked members to open up their wallets and check their "Want Lists" as a mail bid auction was to take place. Rules for the auction were published and 210 items were listed "For Sale". The auction was organized and handled by the then and as it happens the still standing Secretary-Treasurer, Al "Digger" Munro. Many thanks go out to Al for his long standing and continuing years of service and work with C.A.W.M.C. as Secretary-Treasurer, Past President and other positions that he has held within the organization. It was reported in early 1984 that the auction was a resounding success with all lots being sold and C.A.W.M.C. netted a profit of \$ 258.69. The highest priced item bought was catalogue # 5876-1A, a Stratford 1937 Coronation Flat which sold for \$ 62.00.

1983's auction was so successful that another one was being planned for early 1984 with 100 lots to be put on the auction block. Again, all items were sold and the top selling wood was catalogue # 9800-21, The Grin Bin from Vancouver, B.C. at \$ 22.75.

On the East Coast, the Loyalist-Wallace Bi-Centennial Committee out of Wallace, Nova Scotia issued a wood in 1984 with all profits being used to fund events that summer.

In October of that same year, an article appeared identifying a new wood, "Nickelodeon" handed out at the Calgary Stampede in a contest sponsored by a local radio station. Three different woods were issued by "Nickelodeon", it being a store emphasizing the sale of blue jeans with a \$5.00 discount. It was discovered that they were also being handed out at a local hotel and these woods appear in your catalogue as # 8140-137a, 137b, & 137c.

It is interesting that the newsletter, several issues later, included a letter by Gary Silkstone entitled "My First Wood and How I started Collecting". Gary was about seven years old at the time and his first wood was a \$5.00 discount on a pair of blue Jeans from "Nickelodeon". The letter went on to say that sometime later, when he was about 15 years old, Mr. Stan Clute whilst at one of the Calgary Club meetings noticed that Gary had an interest in woods and wanted to help. He gave Gary over 30 woods to give his collection a boost. Thank you, Stan for your thoughtfulness and generosity.

January of 1985 marked the 10th Anniversary of C.A.W.M.C. and that year saw two more successful mail bid auctions held with over 75 and 95 items respectively being listed and sold.

Chips from the Woodpile continued

Briscoe Fine Foods from Vancouver, B.C. found a way to make wood work for them used wooden tokens to promote it's retail and wholesale business in the sale of buffalo meat by offering any restaurant that purchased ground buffalo meat one thousand tokens "Good for a 50 cent discount on a Buffalo Burger". Nine different tokens came onto the market (some with different obverses) from Bender's Bistro, Bender's Kitchen, Jazz Bar, Hamburger Mary's, Landmark Jazz Bar, Avalon Hotel, Cafe 24, Brass Rail Pub and Tapley Pub. Another collector's dream!

And now, after thinking about all of those Buffalo Burgers, we have another Tom Hudson quiz question:

Mark Mogen of Calgary was responsible for the issue of two different 25th Wedding Anniversary woods. Do you know who they were made for ?

'Til next time ... Let the Chips lie where they fall. Dave Gillespie



Answer of the Question from August 2020

Q. *What C.A.W.M.C. member issued a wooden nickel upon receiving his B.A. degree from the University of Toronto in 1977?*

A. *Stanley Clute - wood # 5908-007*



PRESIDENT'S REPORT CAWMC AGM July 2020

Our AGM in Calgary in 2019 has been one of the most successful ever, with 32 participants. Due to Covid 19, CAWMC AGM 2020 was cancelled, so all reports pertaining to 2019 will hopefully be voted on next year, 2021, in Ottawa.

CAWMC is now in its 46th year of existence. Very few woods were created to highlight this anniversary, its 45th, but a few ideas are already floating around to celebrate our 50th anniversary in style!

Interest for wooden money is growing, and CAWMC was invited to provide history, evolution and collecting styles of wooden money for both English and Francophone websites and associations.

CAWMC is presently discussing protocols allowing our association to join the numismatic world through the Newman Portal, hosted by the Numismatic Bibliomania Society.

NUNET.CA

I have updated our page once in 2019. The website is administered by M. Paul Petch and changes can be communicated through e-mail. PDFs and Word docs are preferred.

Overall our association is strong, well supported by its members, better known by the collecting world and I believe that our future is bright.

France



Thank you to all our members. You make our association strong!

CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF WOODEN MONEY COLLECTORS

2019

TREASURER'S COMMENTS

The 2019 Treasurer's Report is presented as a separate report. The report shows the association had net receipts of \$780.15 in 2019.

The major cost in the report is the benevolent expense. The Association sent flowers to a long time member after the passing of his wife who was also a member and who joined shortly after the formation of the Association. The financial report also corrects an error in the 2019 minutes by showing auction proceeds of \$346 for the auction and not the \$436 reported in the minutes.

2019 was a good year for the Association which had a large attendance at the annual meeting in Calgary. The association hosted an auction which raised \$346 as indicated above. Four new members joined and all four have renewed for 2020. These new members helped the Association maintain membership at similar numbers to previous years.

The cancellation of the 2020 Royal Canadian Numismatic Association's 2020 annual convention and our annual meeting will have negative results on our 2020 financial position. We will not be able to carry on the fund raising activities normally associated with the annual meeting and the mailing costs of our free woods will probably rise significantly as we were not able to distribute any at the meeting. Fortunately our association is in good financial shape to weather both the decrease in receipts and increase in expenditures.

Al Munro, Treasurer.

CAWMC Membership as of December 31, 2019

In 2019,

eight new members joined the Association,

we reported no deceased members

At the end of December 2019

we had 8 honorary life members
And 73 regular members

For a total of 81 members

Al

CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF WOODEN MONEY COLLECTORS
TREASURER'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2019
(WITH COMPARATIVE FIGURES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2018)

		"2018"	"2019"
RECEIPTS			
Members dues		\$760.00	\$760.00
Donation	Auction	\$308.00	\$346
	Decorated Woods	\$64.00	\$175
	Other	\$172.00	\$140.00
Interest		\$64.56	\$93.38
	U.S. Exchange	\$15.32	\$34.80
TOTAL		<u>\$1,383.88</u>	<u>\$1,549.18</u>
EXPENDITURES			
Timber Talk	Postage	\$322.97	\$261.60
	Printing	\$233.23	\$181.29
Secretary Treasurer		\$43.56	\$75.55
Distribution woods		\$70	\$70.00
Promotional Woods		\$40.00 NIL	
Annual meeting Subsidy		\$164.73 NIL	
Benevolent		Nil	\$135.59
Membership R.C.N.A		\$45.00	\$45.00
TOTAL		<u>\$919.49</u>	<u>\$769.03</u>
NET RECEIPTS (EXPENDITURES)		<u>\$464.39</u>	<u>780.15</u>
MEMBERS EQUITY , BEGINNING OF YEAR		<u>5,458.13</u>	<u>\$5,922.52</u>
MEMBERS EQUITY, END OF YEAR		<u>\$5,922.52</u>	<u>\$6,702.67</u>
REPRESENTED BY			
Cash on hand and in Bank		\$6,492.52	\$7,412.67
Less: Prepaid Memberships		\$570.00	\$710
TOTAL		<u>\$5,922.52</u>	<u>\$6,702.67</u>

EDITOR'S REPORT CAWMC AGM July 2020

TIMBER TALK: As discussed in Calgary in 2019, I have tried to make Timber Talk a more enjoyable reading experience for our aging members by increasing its font size and overall readability, even though those criteria do not correspond quite to the new “writing norms”, I feel they are better suited for our Association’s needs.

Originally, the CAWMC Board of Directors gave me carte blanche for the number of Timber Talk produced yearly and the length of each publication. So far I managed to publish monthly issues, with variable length, depending on material published in each issue. I am comfortable with this format, or lack thereof.

Finding material to publish have been a bit easier this year, thanks to the incredible contribution of Judy Blackman and Dave Gillespie ON*. Our competition of fall 2019 also helped. Thank you again to Gene Simms and the Vancouver’s North Shore Numismatic Society for providing the prize.

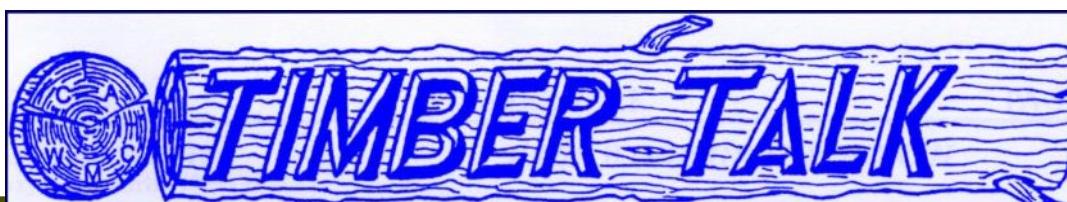
I am happy to report that when I solicit information regarding some wood, our members and other issuers are, as always, generous with it. It makes my job so enjoyable!

The Board of Directors approved the new “thank you for your contribution” collectible woods program, which should begin shortly.

Thank you to all our readers for feedback and collaboration.

France

* We have two members sharing a name. One is from Ontario, the other one from Alberta.



The History and Collecting of Wooden Money

By France D. Waychison

Wooden money, sometimes also called wooden token, is made of wood, comes in different colors and shapes and is fun to collect.

Wooden money has been around for many centuries as it (according to legend) dates back to the Roman Empire, 395 to 1435 A.D. It later flourished in England, somewhere in the 12th and 14th centuries, as “Wooden Exchange Tally”, sticks made of hazel-willow wood, with a system of “notches” indicating value. Tibet during the 12th century issued wooden money made of Bamboo. China also used bamboo money from 1735 to the early to mid-1900’s. Many countries used wooden money, for different purposes, between 1800 and 1900.

In the United States, the city of Torino, WA. first issued Wooden Money, to be used as emergency money scrip, in 1931. The first “Souvenir Wooden Money” was created in Chicago for the “Chicago World’s Fair” in 1933.

The first Canadian wood on record is the 1880 Dominion Exhibition in Montreal. It was produced by the metal die method, using the dies used to produce the souvenir medals for that same exhibition. The first Canadian wood showing a monetary value was issued in 1937.

Up until now, about 9,000 different woods have been issued, in Canada only. There are many reasons to issue some wood:

Businesses issue a “good for something” wood and at the same time advertise their location. The “good for something” often had a cent or a dollar value written on them. Therefore this type of wooden pieces are called “wooden money”.

Some woods are given as souvenirs, for special events, Christmas, weddings, birthdays, etc. Some collectors like to give away woods with their names at conventions they attend, etc.

Most of the woods are round and come in different sizes. Some are flat and rectangular pieces of very thin wood, therefore fragile, called “flats”. As there is more space on their surface, those usually carry Christmas and other good wishes, they may or not carry a monetary “value”. Whale-shaped, or tree or flower-shaped wooden pieces, carrying value and most often hand decorated, depending of the creativity of the collector, are also collected.

The first popular Canadian woods were called “broomstick”, as they looked like a slice of a broom handle. The design was created when the wood blank was inserted and pressed between two metal dies. The broomsticks are usually all the same thickness, about 6.5 mm, and measure either 25, 30 or 38 mm.

Other woods were printed using ink to create the image. This was a bit like using a rubber stamp and an inkpad to decorate some wood instead of a sheet of paper.

After that, the silkscreen method became popular. This method involved artwork being transferred on a piece of silk, the design being burned on the silk by producing small holes in the screen, so that the ink can go through. The piece of silk is now called silkscreen. This screen is mounted on a press and the ink is squeezed through the silkscreen so it can go through and reproduce the design on the wood.

The next innovation in printing of wooden money was the hot stamping method, still widely used today, using a colored foil and a hot press. The foil is laid out on the wood, cut by an extremely hot press, and transferred to the wood. It is like the way a design is being pressed on a team shirt! These woods are easy to recognize because they are usually done in metallic foil finish and sport a shiny design and text.

The last innovation is the laser engraved woods. These woods are also laser cut and therefore allow for more personalized and distinctive products.

The designs are done on a computer and then engraved into the wood with a special laser. The laser beam burns the design into the wood. The design then appears a bit darker than the wood.

Modern woods are a lot thinner (3.2 mm) than broomsticks and their sizes can vary from 35 mm to 50mm in diameter.

The Spruce Dollars, measuring 88mm in diameter and 6.25 mm in thickness, are bigger than the average woods. These special dollars were issued by the Prince George BC Chamber of Commerce.

Many types of wood, such as black walnut to birch and maple, and more recently, Beetle Killed Fir are used in the production of wooden money. Flats are made of balsa or birch wood. The newer laser woods or flats are sometimes made of veneer or other pre-engineered wood.

The Canadian Association of Wooden Money Collectors (CAWMC) was founded 45 years ago, in 1975. The group meets once a year at the occasion of the Royal Canadian Numismatic Association convention. Our members receive 12 free woods per year and stay connected through our monthly publication, *Timber Talk*, where we can find many interesting articles on the stories behind the woods issued, past and present.



References: Norm Belsten, *The History and Collecting of Canadian Wooden Money*, in Canadian Numismatic Correspondence Course, Part II

I / We wish to JOIN or RENEW my/our membership in the Canadian Association of Wooden Money Collectors (CAWMC). Annual Dues are due before January 1st 2021:

Canadian Resident \$10.00 / Youth (16 years of age and under) \$5.00 Canadian Funds

U.S. Resident \$10.00 / Youth (16 years of age and under) \$5.00

U.S. Funds International Resident (outside Canada and United States) \$20.00 Canadian Funds

Surname: _____ First Name: _____ Fee: _____

Surname: _____ First Name: _____ Fee: _____

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Be sure to include area code with the contact numbers above.

If you would prefer to receive the Timber Talk via Canada Post instead of e-mail, tick this box:

Note: your e-mail address is given to our Editor to set you up with website access to Timber Talk archives and other site features. Our President uses it to send out the newsletter by e-mail. Your mailing address is used by our Secretary for membership records, and for mailing out your woods annually .We do not give out your contact information to anybody without your expressed consent beforehand.

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--- use form below for friend(s) to join too -----

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